

Er det Helligånden, der taler?

18. maj 2025 i København, LGJ
Salmer: 351, #1, 541, // 246, 430, 46.

Prædiketekst: Johannes evangeliet 16,5-15

Nu går jeg hen til ham, som har sendt mig, og ingen af jer spørger mig: "Hvor går du hen?" Men fordi jeg har talt dette til jer, har sorgen fyldt jeres hjerte. Dog, jeg siger jer sandheden: det er gavnligt for jer, at jeg går bort. Thi hvis jeg ikke går bort, kommer Talsmanden ikke til jer; men når jeg går herfra, så vil jeg sende ham til jer. Og når han kommer, skal han overbevise verden om synd og om retfærdighed og om dom; om synd: at de ikke tror på mig; om retfærdighed: at jeg går til Faderen, og I ser mig ikke længere; om dom: at denne verdens fyrste er dømt. Jeg har endnu meget at sige jer; men I kan ikke bære det nu. Men når han, sandhedens Ånd, kommer, skal han vejlede jer til hele sandheden; thi han skal ikke tale af sig selv, men alt, hvad han hører, skal han tale, og det, der kommer, skal han forkynde jer. Han skal herliggøre mig; thi han skal tage af mit og forkynde jer det. Alt, hvad Faderen har, er mit; derfor sagde jeg, at han skal tage af mit og forkynde jer det.

Er det Helligånden, der taler?

Hvordan kan vi vide, om Helligånden taler?

Eller om det er menneskets ånd, tidsånden, vore egne tanker, bare noget, vi siger til os selv.

Hvordan kan vi vide, om prædikenen i kirken er noget, præsten har talt til sig selv eller om det er Gud, der taler, Guds ånd, der taler gennem ham?

Svaret er enkelt. Hvis der tales om Jesus, sådan som Skriften taler, så er det Helligånden, der taler. Jesus siger om Helligånden, at *han ikke skal tale af sig selv, men alt, hvad han hører, skal han tale, og det, der kommer, skal han forkynde jer. Han skal herliggøre mig; thi han skal tage af mit og forkynde jer det.*

Den samtale, som fandt sted mellem Jesus og disciplene før hans lidelse og død, har HELLIGÅNDEN mindet apostlene om, så de skrev den ned, så vi også kan læse den. Derfor hører vi lige nu Helligånden, når vi hører evangeliet. Det er Helligånden, som taler til os.

Is the Holy Sprit speaking?

TRANSLATION: MS WORD (not proof-read)

18 May 2025 in Copenhagen, LGJ

Hymns: 351, #1, 541, // 246, 430, 46.

John 16:5-15 ESV

5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Is it the Holy Spirit speaking?

How can we know if the Holy Spirit is speaking?

Or whether it is the spirit of man, the spirit of the times, our own thoughts, just something we say to ourselves.

How can we know if the sermon in the church is something the pastor has spoken to himself or if it is God speaking, the Spirit of God speaking through him?

The answer is simple. If Jesus is spoken of as the Scriptures speak, then it is the Holy Spirit who speaks. Jesus says of the Holy Spirit that *He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He hears He shall speak, and whatsoever He shall declare to you. He will glorify me; for he will take of mine and declare it to you.*

The conversation that took place between Jesus and the disciples before his suffering and death has been reminded by the HOLY SPIRIT, so that they wrote it down so that we can also read it. Therefore, right now, we hear the Holy Spirit when we hear the gospel. It is the Holy Spirit speaking to us.

Han taler trøst

I dag taler han særligt til bekymrede disciple, som ikke ser nogen fremtid og noget håb. *Nu går jeg hen til ham, som har sendt mig, og ingen af jer spørger mig: "Hvor går du hen?" Men fordi jeg har talt dette til jer, har sorgen fyldt jeres hjerte.* Sorgen har fyldt deres hjerte. Der er ikke plads til noget andet. Det er Jesus, som har gjort dem kede af det. Han har fortalt dem, at han selv vil gå bort. Han har også fortalt om at de vil blive forfulgt og få det svært på grund af deres tro. Disciplene blev martyrer.

For dem – og for os - ser situationen umulig ud. Men Jesus arbejder. Jesus ved, hvad der skal ske. Han har planer. Også når du kun oplever sorg som kristen. Og han fortæller om det med enkle ord. Der er meget andet, han kunne fortælle. Men han fortæller kun det, som de kan bære i den situation.

De spørger ikke "Hvorhen?" For de har ikke nogen forventning efter det, de har fået at vide om at han skal dø. Det fylder dem helt med sorg. Sådan kan sorgen også fylde os helt. Der er ikke plads til andet. Det bliver hele vores virkelighed. Vi holder op med at spørge. – Men midt i sorgen arbejder Jesus. *"Jeg går hen til ham, som har sendt mig!"* "Ham, som har sendt mig!" Gud den almægtige – himlens Herre – sendte sin Søn. Jesus går hen til ham, som elskede verden så meget, *at han gav, gav sin Søn til os.* Gennem døden. *Hen i himlen. Hen i evigheden.* "Hen" lyder, som om der ikke er ret langt. Og der er ikke ret langt. Evigheden er nær, fordi Jesus er nær. Det vil han gøre for os. Og derefter vil han søge for, at de kan høre om det. Det vil Guds Ånd, Helligånden, Talsmanden, Trøsteren, Sandhedens Ånd ordne og sørge for. Hør hvordan:

Han overbeviser

Når jeg går herfra, vil jeg sende Talsmanden til jer. Jesus sender Helligånden! Og han arbejder nu i verden. Særligt i og gennem den kristne menighed. Gennem Guds ord, som vi har fået betroet. Det ord tvinger ingen. Det hjernevasker heller ikke. Nej, det overbeviser. *"Han skal overbevise verden!"* siger Jesus. Helligånden skal gøre det. Ikke vi, men *han* skal gøre arbejdet. Og ikke kun halvdelen, mens vi gør resten. Nej, *han* skal gøre det hele. Han skal overbevise verden. Og da vi jo også hører med til verden, er det også os, han skal overbevise. Jesus fortsætter og fortæller, hvad han skal overbevise os om: om synd, retfærdighed og dom.

He speaks consolation

Today, he is speaking especially to troubled disciples who see no future and no hope. *Now I go to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have spoken these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.* Grief has filled their hearts. There is no room for anything else. It is Jesus who has made them sad. He has told them that he himself will pass away. He has also told of how they will be persecuted and have a hard time because of their faith. The disciples became martyrs.

For them – and for us – the situation looks impossible. But Jesus works. Jesus knows what is going to happen. He has plans. Even when you only experience grief as a Christian. And he tells about it in simple words. There is much more he could tell. But he only tells what they can bear in that situation.

They don't ask "Where?" Because they have no expectation after what they have been told that he is going to die. It fills them completely with sadness. This is also how grief can fill us completely. There is no room for anything else. It becomes our whole reality. We stop asking. –

But in the midst of grief, Jesus is working. *"I will go to him who sent me!"* "He who sent me!" God Almighty – the Lord of heaven – sent his Son; Jesus goes to him who loved the world so much *that he gave, gave his Son to us.* Through death. *To heaven. To eternity.* "Hen" sounds like it's not very far. And it's not very far. Eternity is near, because Jesus is near. He will do that for us. And then he will search for them to hear about it. The Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth will arrange and provide for this. Hear how:

He convinces

When I leave here, I will send the Comforter to you. Jesus sends the Holy Spirit! And he now works in the world. Especially in and through the Christian congregation. Through God's Word, which has been entrusted to us. That word does not force anyone. It doesn't brainwash either. No, it convinces. *"He must convince the world!"* Jesus says. The Holy Spirit must do it. Not us, but *he* has to do the work. And not just half, while we do the rest. No, *he* has to do it all. He has to convince the world. And since we also belong to the world, it is also us he has to convince. Jesus goes on to tell us what He has to convince us of: about sin, righteousness and judgment.

... om synd

Han skal overbevise om synd! Når det handler om "synd", tænker de fleste nok i på bestemte ting, som er forkert at gøre. "Synd".

Det er en udbredt opfattelse, at synd er det, man har lyst til, men som kristne siger, man ikke må. De er selv i "kort snor". De er forpligtet på de 10 bud, som binder dem, hegner af for deres liv. Derfor snakker de så meget om "synd". Og det er sandt, at de 10 bud er bindende – for alle mennesker.

Men Jesus viser os en anden vigtig side ved synden: **"synd, at de ikke tror på mig."** "Synd" er ikke bare overtrædelse af bestemte kristne regler. Det er at bryde en relation, kærligheden, lydigheden, fællesskabet. Synd er at bryde relationen til Gud og mennesker. "At de ikke tror på mig!" At man ikke tror, at Jesus er kommet for at redde os fra denne ødelæggende måde at leve på.

Faktisk er det også hovedproblemet, når vi synder mod de 10 bud: Problemet at man følger sit eget hoved og sin selviske lyst og bryder forholdet til Gud og til sine medmennesker. Det er det, Jesus peger på: "Synd – at de ikke tror på mig – dvs. på Jesus!" Og vi er ramt. Overbevist. Jeg er en synder.

... om retfærdighed

Han overbeviser også om retfærdighed: "... om retfærdighed, at jeg går til

Faderen." Overraskende forklaring. For vi kunne forvente: "Overbevise om at I skal gøre det bedre, stramme jer an og blive bedre mennesker." Men retfærdigheden består i, at **JESUS går til Faderen.** Jesus gik til Faderen via døden på korset. Han havde fortalt disciplene, hvor han gik hen, mens de sørgede. Han gik ind i skammen, skylden og døden for deres skyld og for vores skyld.

Den retfærdighed, vi har brug for, er ikke, at vi bliver lidt bedre, end vi var, men at Gud tilgiver os og er os nådig. Og det er han på grund af Kristus. Det kan vi stole på. For det er sådan, Gud retfærdiggør os.

I Romerbrevet skriver apostlen Paulus: *Alle har syndet og har mistet herligheden fra Gud, og ufortjent gøres de retfærdige af hans nåde ved forløsningen i Kristus Jesus (Rom 3,21-24).* Sådan bliver vi reddet, tilgivet, frelst og får evigt liv. Det hører vi kun i kristendommen. Ingen andre steder. Helligånden gør det ved evangeliet.

... of sin

He will convict of sin! When it comes to "sin", most people probably think of certain things that are wrong to do. "Too bad."

It is a common belief that sin is what you want, but as Christians say, you must not. They are themselves on a "short leash". They are bound by the 10 commandments that bind them, fence off their lives. That is why they talk so much about "sin". And it is true that the 10 commandments are binding – for all people.

But Jesus shows us another important side of sin: **"sin that they do not believe in me."** "Sin" is not just a violation of certain Christian rules. It is to break a relationship, love, obedience, community. Sin is to break the relationship with God and people. "That they don't believe in me!" That they do not believe that Jesus has come to save us from this destructive way of life.

In fact, this is also the main problem when we sin against the 10 commandments: The problem that one follows one's own head and one's selfish lust and breaks the relationship with God and with one's fellow human beings. That is what Jesus points to: "Sin – that they do not believe in me – that is, in Jesus!" And we are affected. Convinced. I am a sinner.

... of justice

He also convinces of justice: "... of righteousness, that I go to the Father." Surprising explanation. For we could expect: "Convince you to do better, tighten up, and become better people." But righteousness consists in **JESUS going to the Father.** Jesus went to the Father through death on the cross. He had told the disciples where he went while they mourned. He entered into shame, guilt and death for their sake and for our sake.

The justice we need is not for us to become a little better than we were, but for God to forgive us and be merciful to us. And he is because of Christ. We can rely on that. For that is how God justifies us.

In the book of Romans, the apostle Paul writes: *"All have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God, and they are made righteous undeservedly by His grace through redemption in Christ Jesus (Romans 3:21-24).* This is how we are saved, forgiven, saved, and given eternal life. We only hear that in Christianity. Nowhere else. The Holy Spirit does it through the gospel.

... om dom

Jesus fortæller for det 3., at Helligånden skal overbevise om dom. Dom. Vi tænker måske på den dom, vi kan føle i samvittigheden. Vi kan føle os dømt. Dømt af andre. Dømt af Gud. Eller vi tænker på dommedag.

Men vi tænker forkert. Jesus forklarer, at dommen er, - **at denne verdens fyrste er dømt.** Det er dommen over denne verdens fyrste, nemlig Djævelen, ondskabens fyrste, Satan, den Onde.

Helligånden siger det lige nu til os. Den Onde er dømt. Han har ikke noget at skulle have sagt i dit liv. Stor befrielse. Anklageren over alle anklager er selv dømt. Besejret. Besejret af Jesus.

Denne verdens tidsånd trænger sig på. Vil ind i vores tanker og sind. Vil, at vi lever i synd uden tilgivelse. Vil lede os til frafald og vantro og følger vor selviske lyst.

Men han er dømt. Han er afvæbnet. Ved troen på Jesus er vi oprejst fra de døde med Jesus Kristus. Hør Ef 2: *Også jer har han gjort levende, jer der var døde i jeres overtrædelser og synder,*² *som I før vandrede i, da I lod jer bestemme af denne verdens tidsalder og af ham, som hersker over luftens rige, den ånd, der stadig virker i ulydighedens børn. ...*⁴ *Men i sin rige barmhjertighed og på grund af den store kærlighed, han elskede os med,*⁵ *gjorde Gud os, der var døde i vore overtrædelser, levende med Kristus -- af nåde er I frelst --*

Her taler Helligånden! For Jesus bliver herliggjort af Paulus. *Han skal herliggøre mig; thi han skal tage af mit og forkynde jer det. Alt, hvad Faderen har, er mit; derfor sagde jeg, at han skal tage af mit og forkynde jer det.*

Så er Helligånden altså hos os, hver gang vi lytter til evangeliet om Jesus, og når det bliver stort for os, at Jesus virkelig er vores Herre og Frelser. Amen.

... of judgement

Jesus tells the 3rd that the Holy Spirit will convince of judgment. Judgment. We may think of the judgment we may feel in our conscience. We can feel judged. Judged by others. Judged by God. Or we think of Judgment Day.

But we think wrong. Jesus explains that the judgment is - **that the prince of this world is condemned.** It is the judgment of the prince of this world, namely, the devil, the prince of evil, Satan, the Evil One.

The Holy Spirit is saying it to us right now. The Evil One is condemned. He has no say in your life. The prosecutor of all charges has himself been convicted. Defeated. Defeated by Jesus.

The spirit of this world is intruding. Want to get into our thoughts and minds. Want us to live in sin without forgiveness. Will lead us to apostasy and unbelief and follow our selfish lust.

But he has been convicted. He is disarmed. Through faith in Jesus, we are raised from the dead with Jesus Christ. Hear Ephesians 2: *He also made you alive, you who died in your trespasses and sins,*² *in whom you formerly walked when you were ruled by the age of this world, and by Him who rules over the kingdom of the air, the spirit that still works in the children of disobedience.*⁴ *But in his abundant mercy, and because of the great love with which he loved us,*⁵ *God made us who had died in our trespasses alive with Christ, by grace ye are saved—*

Here the Holy Spirit speaks! For Jesus is glorified by Paul. *He will glorify me, for he will take of mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; Therefore I said that he will take of mine and declare it to you.*

Then the Holy Spirit is with us every time we listen to the gospel about Jesus, and when it becomes great for us that Jesus really is our Lord and Savior. Amen.